

## Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Geography

The BSocSc (Hons) in Geography is structured so that students can either choose to specialize in certain sub-fields of the discipline at later stages of their study or to undertake a well-rounded training in Geography, in line with its synthesizing tradition. The BSocSc (Hons) in Geography enables students to obtain a firm foundation in geographical methodology while at the same time acquiring an understanding of the spatial order and interdependence of human beings and regions. Emphasis is placed on the ways in which geographers may assist in finding solutions to real world problems. Students are offered considerable flexibility and freedom to take a broad spectrum of courses, particularly in their third and final years, when they may choose to concentrate on one of the four concentration areas.

### Specifically, the programme aims to:

1. Enable students to develop their knowledge of spatial order and their understanding of the theoretical and practical aspects of geography;
2. Enable students to apply geographical perspectives in the analysis of global-local problems;
3. Facilitate students' acquisition of the intellectual and practical skills needed to analyse, assess and interpret geographical information both independently and as part of a team.
4. Provide students with transferable skills applicable to both geographical and non-geographical careers as well as the ability to pursue postgraduate studies;
5. Enhance student communication and presentation skills; and
6. Promote a sense of life-long learning and a spirit of enquiry.

### The structure of the curriculum is as follows:

I) Social Sciences Common Core	4 units
II) Major Courses	57 units
III) Honours Project	6 units
IV) General Education	31 units
V) Free Electives#	30 units
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	128 units

# Students may take additional GE courses in any categories to fulfill the “Free Electives” requirement but only a maximum of 6 units will be counted towards the fulfillment of the “Free Electives” requirement.

## Major Courses

The major component provides 57 units of required and elective courses offered by the Department of Geography that provide students with a comprehensive training in the discipline. An Informal Concentration System is implemented to provide guidance and direction for students in choosing Geography elective courses in order to build up a foundation in certain areas of their academic interests, or which they consider to be useful for their future careers or postgraduate studies.

The Honours Project enables students to complete a piece of significant, independent study on a geographical topic of their choice under supervision of a faculty member. Moreover, all geography students must participate in the mandatory Field Camp of the Department, which is conducted during the second semester of Year III.

I. Social Sciences Common Core			4 units
	<i>Core Course (1 unit)</i>		
SOSC	1006	Invitation to Social Sciences	1 unit
	<i>Experiential Learning in Action (3 units)^</i>		
SOSC	3005	Community and Civic Engagement	3 units
SOSC	3006	Global Outreach	3 units
II. Major Required Courses			57 units
	<i>Major Required Courses (24 units)</i>		
GEOG	1005	Geography & the Contemporary World	3 units
GEOG	2005	Cultures, Peoples & Landscapes	3 units
GEOG	2006	Earth Systems: Shaping Landscapes	3 units
GEOG	2007	Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Geography	3 units
GEOG	2015	Maps and Map Making	3 units
GEOG	2016	Earth Systems: Atmosphere & Biosphere	3 units
GEOG	2017	Globalization of Economic Activities	3 units
GEOG	3005	Field Camp	0 unit
GEOG	3006	Regional Geography of China	3 units

*Major Elective Courses (33 units)*

*Choose at least one course from each of the following four areas:*

A. Geoanalytics and Research Practice

GEOG	3036	Writing Spatial Stories through Qualitative Research	3 units
GEOG	4006	Advanced Quantitative Methods in Geography	3 units
GEOG	4017	Geographical Information Systems	3 units
GEOG	4025	Geographical Imaginations	3 units
GEOG	4046	Remote Sensing & Image Interpretation	3 units

B. Physical Systems and Environmental Dynamics

GEOG	3015	Geography of Health & the Environment	3 units
GEOG	3017	Global Environmental Issues & Sustainability	3 units
GEOG	4005	Advanced Climatology	3 units
GEOG	4007	Applied Geomorphology	3 units
GEOG	4015	Coastal Environments & Processes	3 units
GEOG	4027	Geography of Environmental Hazards	3 units
GEOG	4057*	Selected Topics in the Geography of China (Physical & Environmental Geography)	3 units
GEOG	4066	Seminar in Environmental Planning & Management	3 units

C. Urban Studies, Cities and Everyday Life

GEOG	3025	Population Geography	3 units
GEOG	3027	Urban Geography	3 units
GEOG	4035	Geography of Transportation	3 units
GEOG	4056*	Selected Topics in the Geography of China (Human Geography)	3 units
GEOG	4067	Seminar in Social Justice & the City	3 units
GEOG	4075	Seminar in Urban Geography	3 units
GEOG	4076	Urban Cultural Landscape	3 units
GEOG	4077	Urban Development & Planning in Hong Kong	3 units
GEOG	4085*	Urban Development in China	3 units
GEOG	4086	Urban and Environmental Planning	3 units

D. Regions, Development and Resource Management

GEOG	2025	Hong Kong & the Pearl River Delta: A Survey	3 units
GEOG	3007	Energy Problems & the Environment	3 units

GEOG	3016	Geography of Pacific Asia	3 units
GEOG	3037	Environmental Health and Policy	3 units
GEOG	4016*	Sustainable Energy & Technological Innovation in China	3 units
GEOG	4026	Geography of Economic Development	3 units
GEOG	4036	Political Geography	3 units
GEOG	4047*	Resource and Environmental Management in China	3 units
GEOG	4055*	Rural & Agricultural Development in China	3 units
GEOG	4065	Energy Policy & Analysis	3 units
GEOG	4087	Natural Resource Evaluation & Policy Approaches	3 units
III. Honours Project			6 units
GEOG	4898-9	Honours Project	6 units
IV. General Education			31 units
V. Free Electives			30 units
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			128 units

\* Geography major students can choose up to two of these China Studies courses. The contents of GEOG 4056/GEOG 4057 Selected Topics in the Geography of China vary from year to year. Whether this course is considered a “human” or “physical and environmental” geography course depends on the exact contents of the course at the time it is offered.

^ Students can take GCAP3026 Developing Interdisciplinary Field Studies for Environmental or Social Issues or GCAP3027 GE Capstone Interdisciplinary Independent Study of Environmental or Social Issues to fulfil the Experiential Learning in Action in Social Sciences Common Core. Students can take any major elective course to make up the outstanding units.